

SEEM NOT EAGER TO GRIP ISSUES

Disappointment in Many Quarters Over Delay of Peace Parley.

ADVANTAGES, HOWEVER

Wilson's Visit to Revive England's Idealism—Other Problems Clearer.

(London Times Phil. Ledger Cor. Cable.) (By Wickham Steed.)

Paris, Dec. 24.—There is an unmistakable disappointment in many quarters over the apparent lack of eagerness on the part of the allied governments to get to grips at once with the chief problems of peace.

Nearly six weeks have elapsed since the armistice was signed with Germany. At least a fortnight will pass before the allied conference can have even its opening sitting.

In the meantime, the desire of all countries to return to a state of peace has become stronger and stronger. The people are becoming more and more impatient and an atmosphere not entirely conducive to the lofty consideration of earnest problems has been created.

And yet there are some countervailing advantages. As far as Great Britain is concerned, President Wilson's visit may tend to revive the powerful idealism that has characterized British public feeling during the war.

In France, the Christmas respite from the war has been a boon. It has enabled Premier Clemenceau to take a much needed rest.

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PIGEONS TO CARRY MESSAGE OF LAUNCHING

Brunswick, Ga., Dec. 24.—Four carrier pigeons will fly from here to Philadelphia today to announce the launching of the steamer Albatross, which takes the water at noon at the plant of the American Ship-building company.

The birds were sent from Philadelphia, and as the ship touched the water, they were planned to release them from a basket of flowers at the top of the vessel's bow. The four identical messages addressed to James O. Heyworth, general manager of the wood ship division of the emergency fleet corporation, will tell of the launching and carry Christmas greetings from the employees of the plant.

Experts say the carriers will have to alight twice on the journey, and that they should be released at intervals of one hour. The other unique feature of the launching is that arrangements were made solely by the employees of the plant.

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TAX BILL GOES TO CONFEREES

Difficult Task in Consideration of 1919-20 Revenue Measure Faced.

TWO HOUSES NOT AGREED

Differs as to Every Section. Luxury Tax Retained—Confiscatory Rates.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Confronted with a difficult task, conferees today began consideration of the 1919-20 revenue bill passed by the senate last night. The bill is a war measure, and as such, it is expected to be passed before the armistice was signed.

As passed by the senate, however, the revenue bill is a peace measure, raising only \$4,000,000,000 in the present fiscal year, but providing an additional \$4,000,000,000 in revenue for the fiscal year 1920.

The bill is expected to be in conference for some time. There are differences between the house and senate measure in practically every section of the measures. Not only are the income and excess profits sections greatly reduced in the amounts of money they will raise, but the senate bill, but the profits taxes are levied on a wholly different basis.

Whereas the house provided a dual system of profits taxation, the senate has combined excess profits with the rates of tax on luxury. It is not certain that house conferees will approve this change.

Keep Luxury Section. When the senate voted to keep the luxury and semi-luxury tax in the bill, it disposed of any difference that might have developed in conference over these taxes. The only conflict that can arise is over the rates of tax on luxury.

The senate conferees are expected, however, to accept the senate reduction of the luxury rate from 20 to 10 per cent. The reduction and the house conferees will be recommended by Secretary McAdoo after the signing of the armistice.

The senate, just before final passage of the bill, rejected a substitute which would have substituted a tax of 10 per cent on the amount of the bill, instead of the 20 per cent on the amount of the bill.

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"CHRISTMAS WITH THE BOYS IN TREVES," SAYS WILSON



This is the German city of Trier, where President Wilson will eat his Christmas dinner. Just because he wants to eat it with the American soldiers who are in the city is the oldest city in Germany, and one of its points of interest is a bridge across the Moselle river built in the day of imperial Rome.

OVATION PROMISED PRESIDENT IN LONDON

SOVEREIGN'S ROYAL CAVALRY AS ESCORT. Streets Gaily Decorated With Venetian Poles Surmounted With Golden Spikes.

London, Dec. 24.—(By British Wireless Press.)—When President Wilson arrives here on Thursday afternoon, they will be driven from Charing Cross station to Buckingham palace through streets lined with the crack troops of the British army. All have been selected from famous guard regiments and will be accompanied by gunners and contingents from the admiralty and royal air force.

During all of the ceremonial visits that the president will make, he will be escorted by the British royal household cavalry. The whole of Friday has been reserved for conferences between the president and the British ministers of state. These meetings will probably take place in Downing street, where the premier's official residence is located.

A great and enthusiastic welcome awaits the presidential party in London, where they will be met at the Victoria and Albert Museum by King George and Queen Mary.

The London correspondent of the International News Service wires: "The president will be met at the Victoria and Albert Museum by King George and Queen Mary. The streets are gaily decorated with Venetian poles surmounted with golden spikes. They are set seventy-five feet apart and are linked up with festoons and allied signs from multi-colored chains of color from the network of a triumphal canopy.

All London is on tiptoe for the president's coming, hoping to outdo the Paris party in the demonstration. There will be only seventy guests at the government dinner at Lancaster house, but they will be among the most prominent men of the nation.

Arrangements for the banquet Friday night in honor of President Wilson and his family are being made by the king of Denmark during his recent visit to London. The banquet room in Buckingham palace is decorated in white and gold and has some of the finest tapestries in existence. It is the largest room in the palace. There is a throne in one end, but this probably will be hidden by flowers and festoons.

The president will be accompanied by his family. The king of Denmark during his recent visit to London. The banquet room in Buckingham palace is decorated in white and gold and has some of the finest tapestries in existence. It is the largest room in the palace. There is a throne in one end, but this probably will be hidden by flowers and festoons.

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BAKER AND PERSHING OFFER REPLY TO FRENCH OFFER

Paris, Dec. 24.—(Havas.)—Secretary Baker and Gen. Pershing have replied to an offer made by French officials, head of the general commission for Franco-American war matters, to place at the disposal of American soldiers French universities, libraries and technical schools. They express thanks for the offer, which they prompt the offer. Details of the proposed organization are being considered by a committee.

FIXING RESPONSIBILITY FOR BRINGING ON WAR

EX-KAISER AND CROWN PRINCE HEAD LIST.

Herr Kaatsky Compiling White Book From Archives of German War Office.

London, Dec. 24.—(British Wireless Press.)—A view is that history will allot responsibility for the war and its continuance, first, to the ex-kaiser and the former crown prince; second, to Ludendorff and the industrial magnates; and fourth, to the pan-Germans," said Herr Kaatsky, who is compiling a white book from the archives of the German foreign office, according to an interview secured from the compiler by the Berlin correspondent of the Evening News today.

Herr Kaatsky now probably knows more about the immediate cause of the war than any other living man (outside of a few high German officials).

Many volumes will be published," continued Herr Kaatsky. "I expect to have the first ready in about a month. The Austrian government purposes to issue a similar document in a few days, so that from our side full light will be thrown on the origin of the war as far as humanly possible.

"All I can say at present is that the archives so far as England is concerned are likely to confirm the point of view of Prince Lichnowsky and Dr. Muellner."

(Prince Lichnowsky was German ambassador to England before the war broke out and was subsequently prosecuted in Germany for publishing a memorandum exonerating England from responsibility.)

Herr Kaatsky has played an important part in German politics during the past four years and steadfastly opposed the war. With his independent socialist colleagues, he signed the first peace manifesto issued in Germany.

KING OF MONTENEGRO WILL VISIT PRESIDENT

DEAN OF JUGO-SLAVS FOUGHT FOR LIBERTY.

Nicholas Hopes to See League of Nations and Self-Determination Realized.

Paris, Dec. 23.—King Nicholas of Montenegro intends to visit President Wilson as soon as possible. Speaking to the Associated Press correspondent, the king said: "The aspirations of Montenegro are in complete accord with those of the other peoples of the same race, to become a part of the Jugo-Slav confederation, to preserve its autonomy, independence and customs."

It is possible that the president may make a short address to the troops of the Yankee division near the front of the western front.

The presidential party will not eat from mess kits when they sit down to a good old-fashioned noon-time dinner at Montigny-le-Roi. But every day in the trenches, they are eating from mess kits when they sit down to a good old-fashioned noon-time dinner at Montigny-le-Roi.

There will be the regular tin forks and steel-bladed knives, aluminum plates and big ellipse-shaped cups, the same as the doughboys carried on their backs when they were in the trenches. It is impossible to get enough crockery and silverware in this section of France for 200 covers, even if everything were commandeered.

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RAIN AND MUD HAMPER PLANS

"Duckboards" Laid Over Knee-Deep Slush Prevailing at Pershing's Post.

WILSONS DEMOCRATIC

Will Use Tin Forks of Doughboys at Dinner in Battle Zone.

EIGHTY-SECOND

Among Divisions Represented in Review Before Wilson. Paris, Dec. 24.—(Havas.)—The review of the Twenty-sixth (New England) division, the president will return by automobile to Chaumont. On the way he will stop at several small towns where American troops are stationed, to inspect the quarters and talk with the men.

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